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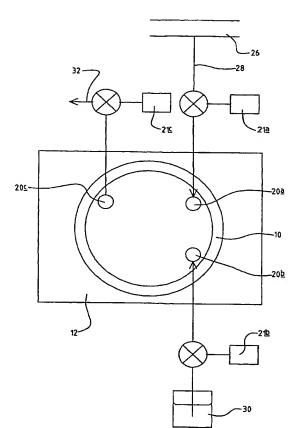
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING MASTITIS



(57) Abstract: A method of testing a biological fluid for the presence of an infection, the method including the steps of introducing a sample of biological fluid and a reagent including light amplifying compound into a reaction chamber (18), the light amplifying compound reacting with a substance present only in an infected sample to emit light, and immediately measuring the intensity of any light emitted from the sample.

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European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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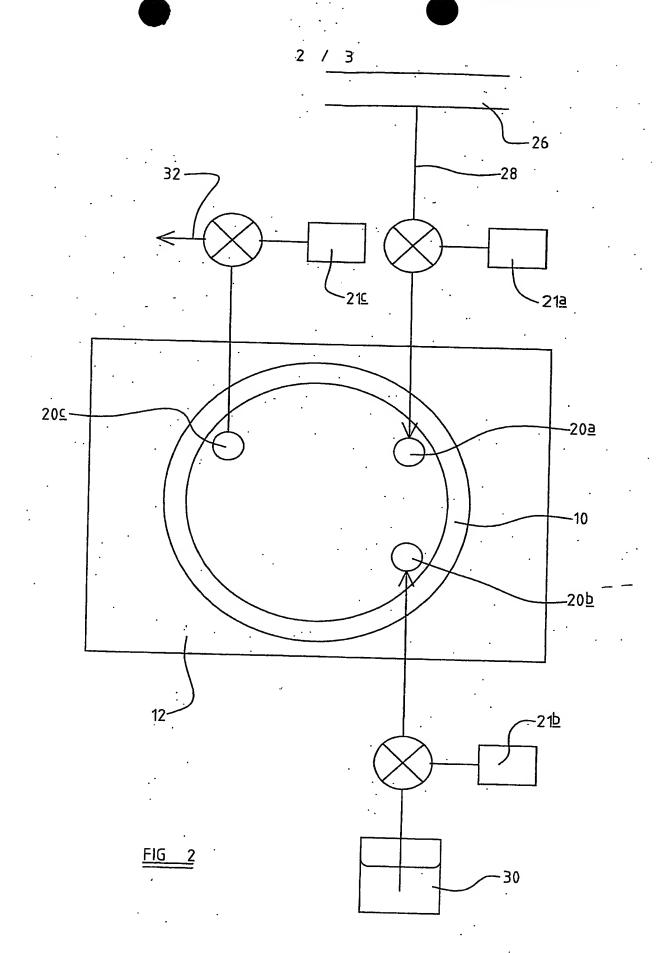
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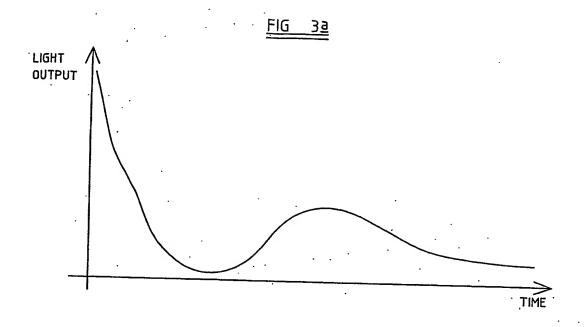
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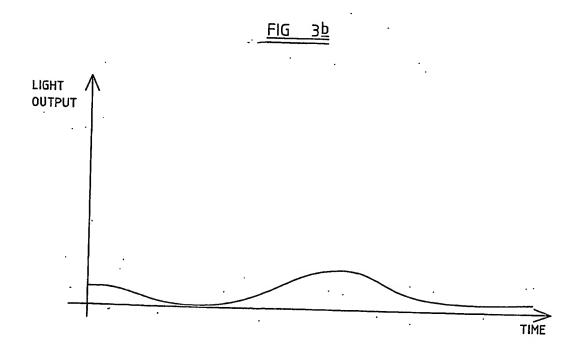
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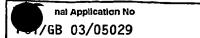
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01N33/04 G01 G01N21/76 G01N33/487 A01J5/013 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G01N A01J Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included. In the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ' Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X EP 0 489 602 A (KNIGHT SCIENT LTD) 1-6,8, 10 June 1992 (1992-06-10) 14-16 column 3, line 12 -column 4, line 45 column 8, line 17 - line 45 Y X GB 2 001 434 A (TARKKANEN V; KOLEMAINEN S) 17 31 January 1979 (1979-01-31) γ the whole document 7,26,28 Y WO 01 35728 A (CLAYCOMB RODNEY WAYNE ; DEC 26,28 INTERNAT NZ LTD (NZ); WHYTE DAVID SIMON) 25 May 2001 (2001-05-25) the whole document X US 6 297 045 B1 (MATUE TAKAHISA ET AL) 1-3,7,82 October 2001 (2001-10-02) cited in the application the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date daimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 23 March 2004 29/03/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Joyce, D





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